

portfolio from me,, which appeared to me the more surprising as, during the seven days I had the honor of coming in contact with Louis XVIII., his Majesty had been pleased to bestow many compliments upon me. I at first refused to give up the portfolio, but M. de La Fayette told me the King had ordered him to receive it; I then, of course, yielded the point,

However, it was not long before, I had experienced a courtier's revenge, for two days after this circumstance, that is to say, on the 15th of May, on entering my cabinet at the usual hour, I mechanically took up the Journal, which I found lying on my desk. On glancing hastily over it what was my astonishment to find that the Comte de Prémont had been appointed Director of the Library in my stead. Such was the strange mode in which M. de La Fayette made me feel that he promised gratitude of the sovereign. Very truly, after my proofs of loyalty, which a year afterwards procured me the honor of being outlawed in quite a special way, I had reason to complain, and I might have said *A IV \*'»»» v n<nt mbix* as justly as Virgil when he alluded to the unmet-it <\*ii lavurs lavished by Augustus on the Maevius and Lucius of his time,

The measures of (loving-kindness soon re-iterated complaints in every quarter. The usages <»f the old system were in fact restored, and ridicule being mingled with more serious considerations, Paris was speedily inundated with caricatures and pamphlets.<sup>1</sup> However, tranquillity prevailed until the month of September, when M. de Talleyrand ordered the arrest of the Congress of Vienna. Then all wits disorder at the Tuileries, "Every one feeling himself free from restraint\* wished to play the statesman, and Heaven knows how many follies were committed in the absence\* of the seignior master.

Under a feeble Cuvier there is but one step from discontent to insurrection, under an inbecillity of Government like that of France in 1814, after the departure of M. de Talleyrand, conspiracy has free scope,<sup>1</sup> During the summer of 1815 were initiated the events which culminated in the

<sup>1</sup> A little political journal, called the *Nouvelles*, <>r F<'llt<f\* Dwarf, <<xf>r-cised much influence at this period. — *Klithumf* IK:ffii'slii>ni, Hi^ti Mrtii\*ruirh, vol. iii, p. 31.

<sup>4</sup> There is no doubt that Talleyrand's <<il>>wti<! itl Vliiiiitit wiw

rt»im

f«r

the Bourbons; see for example tiw dilliniltii?i with the  
MitiknUtm l\*»r wmii of